



ALEXANDRIA.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 22.

THE CELEBRATION OF WASHINGTON'S BIRTH-DAY in this city was worthy the occasion in every respect. The city was beautifully decorated, while the parade, civic and military, exceeded anything of the kind ever witnessed here. The gay uniforms of the military and their excellent marching, the splendid display made by the fire department—the engines and apparatus being burnished like gold and gorgeously decorated with flowers and bunting—the varied display of trades, the well mounted marshals, with splendidly caparisoned steeds, the entrancing music of the numerous bands, and the immense throng of people, out in holiday attire, all went to make up a pageant that did honor to the memory of Washington and reflected great credit upon Alexandria, Washington's town. To Chief Marshal Windsor and his aides is great praise due for the arrangement and carrying out of the difficult programme, which was done without a flaw, and naught occurred to mar the happiness of the occasion. The day, too, which was perfect, added to the enjoyment.

ONE OF the striking miners in Pennsylvania when asked why he struck, said he belonged to an assembly of the knights of labor, that the elected officers of that assembly had ordered the strike, and that though he knew the result would be misery and possible starvation to his family he obeyed the order "on principle." No matter how ignorant that man may be, or what perverted ideas may possess him, if what he said be true, few right thinking people can blame him, for adherence to principle in such circumstances is a rare virtue. How immeasurably higher should the man referred to stand in the estimation of all good citizens than the readjuster ex-Attorney General of Virginia, who, in advocating the repudiation of Virginia's debt, said "honor wouldn't buy a breakfast."

THE FULL text of the fishery treaty with Great Britain has at last been printed. By it England certainly makes all the concessions that could be reasonably expected, and appears so desirous of maintaining friendly relations with this country that she agrees to allow it to reap the benefits of the treaty for two years pending the ratification thereof. She also agrees to increase the benefits provided the America duty on fish be removed. Why that duty should not be abolished is hard to tell, in the face of the fact that while all the millions of people in this country are consumers of fish, only a few thousands in Massachusetts are engaged in catching them, and that by that duty the price of fish is doubled.

THE CITY COUNCIL of Atlanta has passed an ordinance making drunkenness a misdemeanor punishable with fine and work on a rock pile. That council is a wise one, and has adopted the most effective temperance measure it was possible for it to select. There is no more reason for stopping the sale of liquor because some men are fools enough to misuse that article, than there would be in stopping the sale of razors or opium because other men are fools enough to cut their throats with the former or poison themselves with the latter. Let it be known that a drunk really means thirty days on a rock pile, and immediately drunken people will disappear, and the vice of drunkenness be reduced to the minimum.

NOW THAT General Sheridan's older first cousins have expressed their willingness to make affidavit that the General was born in Ireland, the General's knowledge of his nativity has been revived, and he has also remembered that in 1889 he said there was an insuperable objection to his being a Presidential candidate. The General now knows that it is more difficult to overcome a fact of recent date than it is to charge a State house occupied by defenseless and benighted legislators, or a camp of Piegan squaws and peepooses.

TO SUCH of the striking miners as have resumed work Mr. Corbin has sent his check for \$20,000 to enable them to relieve at once the pressing necessities of their families. As the men have gone to work on precisely the same terms that existed at the time they stopped, how much better it would have been for them if they had not struck at all, and had received the wages they would have earned during the two months they have lost.

MR. CORBIN has very properly refused to discharge the men he employed during the strike, and who stood by him all during that strike. To discharge them would show that he is not the right sort of man for his position, and would justify his employees in any future strike in which they may engage. By retaining them, an equal number of the strikers lose their places. But that is their own lookout, not Mr. Corbin's.

A dispatch from Vienna says: "Count Kalnoky, minister of foreign affairs, has accepted Russia's overtures for the settlement of the Bulgarian question. He trusts that Italy and England will follow suit."

Miss Jessie Bryant, daughter of a farmer near Lexington, Ky., died suddenly yesterday morning from taking Rough on Rats by mistake for quinine.

George H. Corlies, the eminent mechanical engineer and manufacturer, died at Providence, R. I., yesterday. He was in his 72d year.

From Washington.

(Special Correspondence of the ALEX. GAZETTE.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 22, 1888.

When the delegation from Fredericksburg, Virginia, called on the President last Monday to invite him to stop at their town on his way to Florida, he received them most cordially. They told him Fredericksburg was Washington's play ground, that General Jackson had once stopped there, and that all the Presidents up to the war had been there; that its chief attractions now were historical, and that some of his State's people had settled there since the war. He replied that he took great interest in historical events, and that though he disliked for his State to lose her citizens, still he knew of no other State he would like better for them to settle in than Virginia. He also told them that though the programme of his trip to Florida had been arranged, if they would renew their invitation by telegraph to Jacksonville, he would do his best to have it accepted on the way back.

All the republican members of the House from Virginia, except Mr. Bowden, have gone home. Mr. Browne, of the Danville district, has been home for some time, and will be detained longer, by the illness of his son.

The national democratic committee met at noon here to-day in Willard's Hall, and was called to order by ex-Senator Barham, its chairman. Various dates and places for the convention have been moved and argued, but up to four o'clock only the former had been determined—July 31. It looks now as if the place will be either Chicago or San Francisco, many of the members, among them Mr. Barbour, being in favor of the latter.

Senator-elect Barbour asked the GAZETTE's correspondent to-day to say to the many Virginians who write to him for seeds and documents, that as he is now, and will be until March 1889, a private citizen, he has no more of such articles at his disposal than any other private citizen of the country; that if he had any he would be glad to comply with their requests, and if they will renew their requests after he shall have entered upon his Senatorial term, and when he will have a share of seeds and documents, he will take pleasure in supplying those who may want them to the utmost extent of his power.

The House was not in session to-day. In the Senate, as soon as the opening prayer was delivered, Mr. Ingalls, the president pro tem, in pursuance of a resolution previously adopted, commenced the reading of Washington's Farewell Address, and read the whole of it. All the Senators present gave him their strictest and most concentrated attention, some of them being so intent upon catching every word that they made their hands assist their ears. To spectators in the gallery it seemed that many of them had never read the address, or, if they had, had entirely forgotten it.

It is reported that the Republican representative Bowden, of the Norfolk district, is the only one of the republican members of Congress from Virginia, to whom a copy of General Mahone's recent secret political circular was sent.

Senator Frye, of Maine, doesn't hesitate to express his intention of opposing the ratification of the fisheries treaty by every means at his disposal. The national committee of the national industrial party met here to-day. Some of its members are in favor of putting a ticket of their own in the field at the next Presidential election. Congressman Hopkins, of Virginia, is in attendance and will oppose any such idea, as he will support the nominee of the national democratic convention.

It is almost as much of a holiday here to-day as it is in Alexandria. The weather is bright and warm, and Pennsylvania avenue is full of people. All the boats and trains that left here for Alexandria up to two o'clock were crowded, the former to such an extent that an extra boat had to be put on the line.

Among the papers that have been presented in the Senate were the following: By Mr. Sherman, a petition adopted at a mass meeting in the 1st Colored Baptist Church at Richmond for the relief of the depositors in the Freedmen's Bank; also a petition of citizens of Virginia for paying Joseph Passemio \$25 for the bridge across the Potomac at Georgetown, until the Aqueduct bridge be completed. Mr. Daniel presented a petition of David E. Porter, of Falls Church, Va., for reinstatement as captain in the U. S. A. In the House Mr. Brown, of Virginia, introduced a bill for the establishment of a light house on Page's Rock, Virginia. Mr. Bowden, of Virginia, presented papers in the name of John C. Norville, of the 1st Colored Baptist Church at Richmond for the relief of the depositors in the Freedmen's Bank; also a petition of citizens of Virginia for paying Joseph Passemio \$25 for the bridge across the Potomac at Georgetown, until the Aqueduct bridge be completed. The report accompanying it states that the receipts of internal revenue at Roanoke for the last six months of 1887 amounted to over fifty thousand dollars, and the postal receipts there for that year were over eleven thousand dollars. The bill for the relief of the proprietors of the National Hotel there has been settled by a compromise, by which the old and present proprietors will retain possession of the house until next July, when the interested parties will try to effect a permanent settlement. In the House yesterday Mr. Browne, of Virginia, presented a petition of N. S. Smith and other citizens of Chincoteague, Va., for increase of pay to employees in the life saving service. Mr. Yost, of Virginia, introduced a bill for the relief of J. W. C. Meeks, David Buchanan, Samuel Hammer & Bros., William Hodges and J. R. Buchanan.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.—The Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias of Virginia met in Danville last night in its twenty second annual session. A large number of delegates were present from all over the State. A public reception tendered the Grand Lodge in the Academy of Music was attended by an immense audience. Speeches of welcome were made by the mayors of Danville and North Danville and by the past chancellors of the lodges of the two towns. Responses were made by members of the Grand Lodge. There was music by the Danville Glee Club. The reports of the grand chancellors, the grand keeper of records and seal and the grand master of exchequer, showed an improved condition of the order in the State. The following are the Grand Lodge officers: E. A. Emerson, P. G. C.; Lynchburg: T. H. Virnelson, G. C.; Portsmouth: W. T. Crump, G. V. C.; Richmond: W. T. Lithgow, G. F.; Manchester: T. L. Courtney, G. M.; of E. Richmond: John C. Teller, G. K. of R. and S. Richmond: H. E. Chase, G. M. of A. Norfolk: A. F. Cox, G. I. G.; Alexandria: D. W. J. Polots, G. O. G.; Harrisonburg: D. J. Turner, Jr., S. R.; Norfolk: J. H. Alexander, S. R.; Leesburg: The Knights of the city, aided by the citizens generally, made every arrangement necessary for the reception and entertainment of visitors. Messrs. J. W. Holt, A. F. Cox and Daniel Webster were there as representatives of the lodge of this city.

Knights Lodge, No. 3, of this city, has doubled its membership during the year, and is the banner lodge of Virginia.

COURT OF APPEALS YESTERDAY.—Purcell against Conrad. From the Circuit Court of Middlesex county. Reversed, Judge Lewis delivering opinion. Shumate against the Board of Supervisors of Fauquier county. Argued by R. B. Campbell for plaintiff, and B. T. Scott, for defendant, and submitted.

The Court adjourned until the 5th of March.

A citizen of Stafford who has been losing corn from his corn house, set a steel trap, and the next morning when he went to his corn crib found the thief securely held in the trap by one of his arms. Earnest pleading on the part of the offender secured his release under promise that he "would not do so again."

ALEXANDRIA'S GALA DAY.

A Gorgeous Twenty-Second of February Parade—A Colossal Display—An Imposing Pageant—Tasteful and Elaborate Decorations—A Notable Civic and Military Turnout.

To-day marks in the calendar of time the one hundred and fifty-sixth anniversary of the birth of the greatest of Virginia's sons—George Washington—and old Alexandria, true to her time honored instincts, has not suffered the day to pass without a suitable recognition, and her Twenty Second parade has in no wise been inferior to the celebrations of previous years.

Those who had the affair in charge have labored assiduously night and day that it might not fall behind the attempts of other years, and that their efforts were not futile has been evidenced by to-day's spectacle and the intense enthusiasm which has prevailed among all classes, young and old.

The committee, though not having had as extended a time to perfect arrangements as in previous years, made every minute tell, and the citizens, with their usual liberality, contributed freely, and by their munificence soon made it apparent that the success of the celebration was a patent fact.

The streets through which the procession passed had been carefully cleaned and cleared of all obstructions, and both private and public buildings were decorated with flags and other embellishments.

As is usual on the recurrence of this anniversary, the streets of the city as soon as the sun rose began to teem with people from contiguous cities and the surrounding country, and by mid-day the population had been augmented amazingly. The majority of our people either refrained from their usual avocations the entire day or closed their places of business in the afternoon, which imparted to the city a genuine holiday appearance.

There had been some uneasiness manifested regarding the weather, and yesterday and last night indications were unfavorable for a fair day; but, notwithstanding, the day, meteorologically, has been all that could be wished—mild and fair—savoring more of May than February.

The Chief Marshal, Col. D. A. Windsor, met his aides and marshals on Washington street, between King and Cameron, at 11:30 o'clock, and assigned them to duty. Soon thereafter the various military and fire companies and other organizations arrived and took the positions in line assigned them.

About 1 o'clock, at the command of the chief marshal, the parade moved from the corner of Washington and Cameron streets, in the following order:

Mounted police under command of Capt. Webster, D. A. Windsor, chief marshal, with Col. Carpenter and Maj. Turnbull, U. S. A.; J. G. Beckham, J. E. Johnston and Geo. Uhler aides, with white sashes and rosettes.

Mounted Marshals—Geo. R. Hill, Major Sickles, E. M. Adams, John D. Hoar, H. Robinson, R. D. Cates, L. G. Reed, R. B. Brown, J. H. Catts, Wm. Watkins, Benj. Watkins, John Darling, Francis Ballinger, Robt. E. Janney, Chas. Janney, Charles Gibbs, Walter Roberts, Jas. W. Roberts, John Branner, George Fowle, Albert Gibson, Geo. Triplett, Leroy Martin, Frank Martin, Richard Watles, Everett Triplett, Oscar Triplett, B. H. Fowle, John Johnson, Wm. Branner, R. Henry Simpson, J. N. Gibbs, Elbert Thompson and Robt. Elliott and others, with blue sashes.

Squad of Mounted Police.

Chief Marshal.

Aids—John G. Beckham, George Uhler, James E. Johnston.

Mayor and City Council and other Corporation officers, distinguished visitors and parade committee in carriages.

Military as follows:

Alexandria Light Infantry—T. W. Robinson and Wm. Wattles Marshals.

Governor's Guard of Annapolis.

U. S. Artillery from Washington Arsenal.

District of Columbia National Guards.

St. John's Academy Cadets—George S. Dearing and Preston H. Whitfield Marshals.

Friendship Fire Company—James Hammersley and Augustus Ditts Marshals.

Hydrant Steam Fire Engine Company—Braxton E. Smith and

District of Columbia National Guards.

Relief Hook and Ladder Company—Frank Warfield and Frank Carlin Marshals.

Columbia Steam Fire Engine Company—A. E. Smoot and Francis Carroll Marshals.

The following was the route of the procession:

From Cameron street up Washington to Queen;

down Queen to Royal; along Royal to Cameron;

down Cameron to Fairfax; along Fairfax to Prince;

down Prince to Lee; up Lee to Wilkes;

up Wilkes to Fairfax; along Fairfax to Duke;

up Duke to Washington; along Washington to Queen;

contemrarch to Duke; up Duke to Columbia;

along Columbia to Prince; up Prince to Peyton;

along Peyton to King; up King to Fairfax;

along Fairfax to Prince; up Prince to Columbia;

along Columbia to King; down King to Fairfax;

and disband.

THE ALEXANDRIA LIGHT INFANTRY.

The military division of the procession was headed by the Alexandria Light Infantry under command of Capt. Geo. A. Mushbach and Lieutenants S. L. Monroe and Albert Bryan. The company mustered 45 musketeers and wore the State regulation uniform of gray coats and trousers, white cross belts and black bear skin shakos. Notwithstanding the inequalities of the ground over which they marched they presented an almost perfect alignment throughout the entire route, and the steady tramp of the men, their wheeling and drill evidenced the careful attention to the minutest details in the school of the soldier that has made the command famous. They were preceded by the celebrated Annapolis Naval Academy band of 25 pieces, led by Prof. Zimmerman, and received their full share of attention and applause. The company was marshaled by T. W. Robinson and Wm. Wattles.

THE GOVERNOR'S GUARD.

The Governor's Guard of Annapolis, followed. They arrived here at 9 o'clock this morning and were at once taken in charge by the A. L. I. and escorted down the street. They appeared in line with 36 men under command of Lt. James Porter. They wore the regulation helmets, dark blue coats, blue pantaloons and white leggings.

U. S. ARTILLERY.

Then came Battery C, 3rd United States Artillery, Major Turnbull commanding, with Lieutenants Pratt, Lemley and Bennett. The battery consisted of four field pieces, with caissons, 65 men dressed in the regulation U. S. artillery uniform and was the principal feature in the parade. The battery arrived here at 11 o'clock and proceeded, under escort, to their position in line, attracting general attention.

CORPORAL CADETS.

The Corporal Cadet Corps, Capt. Edwards and Lieuts. Morrow and Munroe, of Washington, followed. They numbered 50 and wore dark blue coats, trimmed with black braid, dark blue pantaloons and caps and carried a handsome U. S. flag. They are a finely drilled body of young men and made a handsome appearance.

MERCHANTS' RIFLES.

Following came the Merchants' Rifles of Washington, Co. D, 3d battalion, Capt. J. J. Castinet, and Lieuts. Kelly and King. There were 30 men in line, who wore gray uniforms and caps, and carried a U. S. flag. They marched well, and won their share of applause.

COLUMBIA RIFLES.

Then came the Columbia Rifles of Washington, Co. E, 3d battalion, Capt. A. J. Robinson, Lieutenant W. E. Geagie. They numbered 30 strong, and wore the uniform of the District of Columbia National Guards—dark blue coats, light blue pantaloons, caps and blue leggings. They, too, carried

a handsome United States flag and made a fine appearance.

THE ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY CADETS

paraded but one company, under the command of Capt. Wm. H. Sweeney and Lieuts. R. Keith Compton and Orlando C. Ketcham, there having been so many accidents among the boys that it was deemed imprudent for a number of them to turn out. They were in their neat gray uniform with black trimmings and blue cadet caps, and displayed their superb embroidered Virginia flag which attracted so much attention at the National Drill last May. Instead of their own small drum corps, they had a section belonging to the U. S. Marine Corps, and were attended by Cadet A. Laurent Lacombe, of Louisiana, as their special marshal. Though they have been able to drill but little this winter, they did themselves credit by their marching and evolutions.

THE FRIENDSHIP FIRE COMPANY.

First in the line of firemen came the old Friendship company, organized in 1774. This company has long been out of service, but the organization is still kept up. The members turned out 35 strong, and drew their hose carriage which was prettily decorated with flowers, flags, &c. Suspended from an arch hung a large floral bell, beneath which sat two boys dressed in old-time costumes representing George and Mary Washington. Following the hose carriage came the plug catcher, also prettily decorated and drawn by a number of boys in firemen's uniform. The members of the company wore red shirts, black pantaloons, black slouch hats and white belts. The company was headed by a drum corps, and was under command of Geo. W. Crump, and marshaled by Jas. W. Hammersley and A. Butts. The "plug catcher" was under command of W. D. Chichester.

THE VETERAN FIREMEN.

The Veteran Firemen's Association, of Washington, arrived here on the 1:30 boat. They were met at the wharf by a detachment from the Friendship company and at once marched up the street and took their place in line. They drew the old Friend ship engine, which had been loaned them for their Washington parade. The members were dressed in drab coats and pantaloons, red shirts and black New York firemen's helmets. They made a fine appearance, but soon dropped out of line.

THE HYDRANTION FIRE COMPANY.

Following came the Hydrantion Steam Fire Engine Company, "Old Reliable," headed by a section of the Marine band. The engine appeared without decorations and ready for service, but being unpolished and adorned the most, for it was polished and burnished as handsomely as when first turned out of the shop. On the stack, however, rested the hemisphere surmounted by a gilded eagle, which caps the stack in the engine house and the eagle bore in his beak a white wreath with "37" in the center and two small flags. The engine was drawn by the two handsome black horses belonging to the company, driven by Mr. T. D. Dix and behind rode the acting engineer, Wm. W. Wood and the acting fireman, R. H. Massey. The hose carriage loaned the company for the occasion by a Philadelphia firm, appeared in line with the engine, and it, too, was without decorations. It was drawn by two black horses driven by H. C. Phillips. The members wore their handsome new uniforms, consisting of white helmets, blue shirts trimmed with white, white ties, black pantaloons and black belts. The company was marshaled by E. B. Smith and made a fine appearance. As the head was its president, R. L. Carne, flanked by its vice presidents; next the treasurer, flanked by the secretary and recorder; next three axemen and next three pipemen. Then followed the members of the company by fours in open order, marshaled by the foreman, Mr. Franklin L. Eastlake, who bore the beautiful silver trumpet belonging to the company, and assistant foreman George W. Petty, also bearing a handsome trumpet.

RICHMOND FIREMEN.

Company No. 3, of Richmond, in blue uniforms, with gilt-banded caps, who are the guests of the Hydrantion, marched immediately after the officers of that company under the command of Capt. Shepherd, their foreman. They are a handsome set of men and were much admired on the march. Assistant Chief Sneed, of the Richmond fire department, who accompanied them, rode in a buggy with Chief Creighton.

RELIEF HOOK AND LADDER CO.

Next in line came the Relief Hook and Ladder Company, preceded by the Annapolis Cornet Band. The truck was drawn by four gray horses driven by Mr. John Clapdore, and also appeared in line ready for service, the apparatus being considered sufficiently handsome without decorations. The members, thirty strong, wore white shirts, trimmed with red, black pantaloons and belts, and black New York firemen's hats. The company was under command of R. M. Latham and was marshaled by Frank Warfield and Frank Carlin. The president, Park Agnew, marched at the head of the company.

THE COLUMBIA FIRE COMPANY.

The Columbia Steam Fire Engine Company, No. 4, being the youngest organization was the last in the firemen's division. This company turned out with everything in the house and made a fine display, having about 30 men in line. They were headed by Caldwell's band from Washington, and under command of Geo. N. Duffy, and were marshaled by A. E. Smoot and Francis Carroll. First came the reel drawn by members. It was decorated with arches of flowers, cotton baskets, floral horns, and a horse shoe, all of which were surmounted by a beautiful floral bell. Then came the hose carriage drawn by four horses, which were driven by Chas. Adams. This carriage was also prettily decorated and on it was surmounted a boy representing the Goddess of Liberty. The engine followed, almost hidden by flowers, drawn by four bay horses driven by Henry Posey, and on it rode the engineer Loudoun Campbell, and fireman Wm. Simpson. On the stack was a pyramid of flowers; arches of flowers and ribbons extended from the stack to the boiler, from which baskets were suspended and an arch resting on the pipes bore the word, "Columbia" in gold letters. The "plug catcher" was in line drawn by boys dressed as firemen. It was also gayly decorated and on it was the inscription, "We have no wings but we get there just the same." Following it was a quaint little carriage of revolutionary times pattern in which were seated two boys representing George and Martha Washington. The company, as it always does, made a fine display. The members headed by the president, W. A. Smoot, wore uniforms of green fire hats, red shirts and black pantaloons. Their lady friends had taken special interest in the parade, and had supplied them with the handsomest decorations to be procured.

THE TRADES.

Last in the procession came the trades' display and among the firms represented were Messrs. Summers & Allen, C. W. Howell, F. M. Adams, L. Stabler & Co., B. E. Smith, B. M. Burroughs and W. H. May & Son, of this city, and Messrs. J. L. Barbour, Crawford, and Yarn & Ruppert, of Washington, each of whom made a creditable appearance. In the procession also were minstrels riding in a wagon and masqueraders on foot.

NOTES.

As soon as the procession was disbanded the visiting organizations were escorted to the market building, the east end of which had been fitted up as a banquet hall. Here the committee on refreshments had provided a substantial dinner and all were most hospitably entertained. After partaking of the repast most of the visitors took the different trains and boats for their respective homes.

The Friendship Company, after the parade, entertained their guests, the Veteran Firemen, of Washington, at a banquet given in their engine house, the lower story of which had been decorated for the occasion.

The home organizations, after the parade and after they had done escort duty proceeded to their respective quarters and disbanded.

Several of the social clubs kept open houses, and the officers of many of the visiting organizations were entertained at them. Many of the visitors were also entertained at private residences.

The fine bands were a feature in the parade and the music was excellent.

There were a large number of fine horses belonging in this city and the surrounding country in line, which attracted general attention.

The members of the various sub-committees having the details of the parade in charge were untiring in their efforts to make the occasion a success, and that they succeeded, was apparent.

Col. Carpenter, commander at Fort Myer, came here this morning via Washington and rode in the procession. He said it was impossible to bring the companies of cavalry here on account of the impassable condition of the roads.

The parade lasted about two hours and was witnessed by fully ten thousand strangers besides most of the citizens.

At 10 o'clock last night, the Hydrantion S. F. E. Co., preceded by the little drum corps of St. John's Academy, marched to the depot to meet their expected guests, the Richmond firemen, but the train being behind time they had to remain there until nearly midnight. When the visitors emerged from the cars, they were received with rousing cheers and immediately placed in the line and escorted to the engine house. There President Carne received them in a brief speech of welcome, which was appropriately responded to by Assistant Chief Sneed. They were then taken in charge by a committee for refreshments and afterwards quartered at the Braddock House.

As that house is, however, not yet opened for guests, they were entertained during the day in the dining room of St. John's Academy, 815 Prince street.

At the meeting of the parade committee last night letters were read from Gov. Lee, Lt. Governor Massey, Hon. J. S. Hopkins and Major W. G. Moore, of Washington, regretting their inability to be present. The final meeting of the committee will be held at the Council Chamber on Thursday night.

Letter from Richmond.

(Special Cor. of the ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.)

RICHMOND, Va., Feb. 21.—Mr. Pedigo,

the delegate from Henry, is the last legislator to take a whack at convict labor. He has an entirely new scheme and to day he introduced a bill in the House to carry out his ideas. Mr. Pedigo does not favor idleness on the part of the State. He wishes to see the convicts put to hard work and his scheme in a few words is this—"Let all the convicts be employed within the walls of the penitentiary, and put them to work in the manufacture of raw material, all of which must be the product of Virginia."

After the goods are manufactured, such as shoes, hats, cigars, etc., they must be sold outside of the State. It is understood that Mr. Pedigo sees a market in Persia, China, Hindoostan and other far off countries for everything that can be manufactured inside of the Virginia penitentiary. If his bill becomes a law and the Common wealth realizes much money from the sale of pantaloons to the Persians, tobacco to the Hindoos, and boots to the Buddhists, to place the State upon a solid financial basis, the delegate from Henry will stand more prominent than he is now in the ranks of the republican party.

The Norfolk and Portsmouth people who are so strenuously opposing the bill abolishing compulsory pilotage are not very jubilant to-night. The bill has passed the House by a large majority and is now before the Senate Committee on General Laws. It is understood that the appropriation to the Confederate Soldiers' Home at Richmond, will be increased \$5,000 this year. The General Assembly at the last session appropriated \$10,000 and this session the appropriation is to be increased to \$15,000. The Home is becoming a big institution; applications have been received for admission into the home from ex Confederates who live in far off Texas. Several old soldiers who participated in the fights around Richmond and who are now in some of the far Southern States are anxious to spend the remainder of their days near Richmond, and have written here to that effect. If such Southern States would make an appropriation for the Soldiers' Home at Richmond, it would be but carrying out the idea of the founders of the home, and would result in the establishment of an institution which the necessities of the hour demand should be large.

I picked up a local bill from the desk of a Senator to-night, and noticed the following lines written on the back of the bill:

Like the dew on the mountain,
Like the foam on the river,
Like the bubble on the fountain,
Thou art gone, and forever.

Subsequently I was struck with the appropriateness of the lines when I learned that the bill in question had been recommitted to the committee.

B. P. O.

At Newcastle, Cal., there is a famous fig tree. One foot from the ground it measures eight feet four inches in circumference and its branches cover 2,500 feet of surface.

A Misouri paper says that a girl in that State dislocated her shoulder by kicking at a cat. She must have struck all of its nine lives at once! Many people think they have numerous lives, and let coughs and colds take their course rather than take Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup.

DIED.

At Glen Burnie, Fauquier county, on Monday, February 20th, entered into life eternal, full years and rich in faith, after many and sore trials, borne with calm and patient trust in God, Doctor WM. G. CARR, formerly of Bentin, Albemarle county, and for many years a vestryman of Christ Church, Charlottesville.—South, Churchman and Charlottesville, Va., papers please copy.

SPORTING GOODS, GUNS, &c.—We are now receiving our stock of Paper Shells, Guns, Primers, Wads, &c., to which we invite the attention of the public. Prices low and goods first-class. JAS. F. CARLIN & SONS, aug23 New No. 315 King st., Alexandria.

THOMAS'S LIQUID BLUE, IN PAPER BOTTLES. Entirely free from acids, and guaranteed pure. The greatest quantity for the least money of any pure goods on the market. Don't fail to try it. m35 GEO. McBURNNEY & SON.

IN STORE TWO CAR LOADS PURE NEW Orleans Molasses. For sale at lowest market rates. [Jan7] CHAS. KING & SON.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

The wife of sheriff T. A. Harrie, of Spotsylvania county, died